ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A clamping device for work pieces; the device comprises a box-shaped body having un longitudinal axis, at least one movable gripping member, and control means for moving the gripping member between an advanced and a retracted position. The gripping member is operatively connected to the control means by an articulated system having an L-shaped lever, and a toggle lever device; an arm of the L-shaped lever defines a first connecting rod pivotally supported by a first pivotal axis and connected to the clamping member by a first articulation axis. A second connecting rod is pivotally supported by the box-shaped body to rotate according to a second pivotal axis, and in turn is connected to the clamping member by a second articulation axis. The two connecting rods are of different lengths, and the pivotal axes or articulation axes, lie in a plane passing through a reference line which forms an angle with respect to the longitudinal axis of the box-shaped body.